Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Birds, their Nests and Eggs, their Habits and Notes. With Illustrations. By H. D. Minot. Salem, Mass.: Naturalists' Agency. Boston: Estes and Lauriat. 1877. 8vo, pp. 456.

◆

GENERAL NOTES.

BOTANY.[1]

HOMOGONE AND HETEROGONE (or Homogonous and Heterogonous) FLOWERS. — That difference in relative length or height of stamens and style, reciprocally, which in Torrey and Gray's Flora of North America was very long ago designated by the term *diœco-dimorphism,* Mr. Darwin, who detected and has made much of the meaning of the arrangement, called simply *dimorphism.* Besides these *dimorphic,* he also brought to view *trimorphic* flowers. The first name is too long for use and carries with it some ambiguity, since it may imply a separation as well as a diversification of the sexes. Mr. Darwin's term has the disadvantage of not indicating what parts of the blossom are *dimorphic* (hermaphrodite flowers may be dimorphous in the perigonium), and a more generic name is now required on account of trimorphic, etc. This has been supplied by Hildebrand in Germany, who has introduced the term *heterostyled* and the counterpart *homostyled.* These are not particularly happy appellations; for the difference is in the stamens as well as in the pistil, and in the latter is not always restricted to the style. Well-established terms ought not to be superseded on the ground of improvement; but those which have not yet taken root sometimes may be. Following the analogy of *perigonium* or *perigone,* I propose the more exactly expressive term of *heterogone* (or *heterogonous*), for these flowers such as those of *Primula, Houstonia, Lythrum,* etc. The counterpart *homogone* (or *homogonous*) would designate the absence of this kind of differentiation. These terms, either in Latin or English form, would work well in generic or specific characters, and have the advantage of etymological correctness. —ASA GRAY.

A MADROÑA SWALLOWS AN OAK! — "Being yesterday in the country in this neighborhood, I saw what seemed to me a curious botanical phenomenon, which may be of interest. The phenomenon is this. I found in San Rafael, growing side by side, almost from the same root, a Californian oak and a madroña, but on examining the madroña, I found that inside of it was the dead body of the oak that ought naturally to have proceeded from those roots, and the madroña was gradually overgrowing trunk and branches, laying its outside wrapper along like deposits of fat. The trunk was overgrown all but about a foot in some places, less in others (the trunk being perhaps seven or eight feet in circumference), and the branches were gradually, apparently, covered by the madroña covering, the solid part being madroña, and the dead limb of the oak projecting. Again, close by was another pair, oak and madroña, growing in the same way, both very large trees; but in this case the madroña trunk was perfect, the branches very flourishing, and only here and there the remnants of the oak branches projecting, which were being rapidly covered, and apparently in a few years there will be no external evidence that there was anything but a madroña, yet it has plainly absorbed a large oak tree. Farther on, investigating other madroñas, I found exactly the same thing, except that the tree absorbed was a bay (*Oreodaphne*)." — PELHAM W. AMES.

---

[1] Conducted by PROF. G. L. GOODALE.

THE SEXUAL REPRODUCTION OF FUNGI. — That several classes of fungi exhibit a sexual as well as a non-sexual mode of reproduction has been considered to be established by the researches of De Bary and others. In the section of Ascomycetes this was held to be effected by the union of the pollinodium or antheridium, as male organ, with the ascogonium, resulting in the production of the asci. The most recent investigations of Van Tieghem and Cornu throw the gravest doubts on this supposed sexual process. They assert that the so-called "pollinodia" of De Bary are in reality strings of conidia or vegetative cells which themselves germinate without any process of impregnation. Van Tieghem's observations were chiefly made on the two Ascomycetous genera *Chætonium* and *Sordaria*, but apply also to lichens and to the alleged conjugation of male and female organs which is stated by some writers to take place on the mycelial threads of certain Basidiomycetous genera, as *Coprinus*. The life-history and mode of reproduction of all the Fungi seem to be still involved in the greatest obscurity; and all the new systems of classification based on these characters must be regarded as provisional only. — A. W. BENNETT.

BOTANICAL CLUB AT PROVIDENCE, R. I. — It gives us pleasure to announce that a Botanical Section of the Franklin Society has been recently formed at Providence, and that it has already gone to work with a will. Short reports of the meetings have been published in the Providence papers, and they indicate a purpose on the part of the society to thoroughly explore the remarkable flora of Rhode Island.

BOTANICAL PAPERS IN RECENT PERIODICALS. — *Flora*, No. 28. Dr. Müller, New Brazilian Rubiaceæ. Carl Kraus, Mechanics of the Growth of Seedling Roots. De Krempelhuber, Brazilian Lichens. No. 30. J. Wiesner, A New Self-Registering Auxanometer (an instrument for measuring rate of growth). No. 31. Westermaier, Cell-Division in the Embryo of Capsella Bursa-Pastoris. Drude, On a Mixed Heath-and-Meadow Vegetation.

Botanische Zeitung, No. 41. Eriksson, On the Point of Growth (punctum vegetationis) in the Roots of Dicotyledons. No. 42. Behrendsen, On the Flora of the Northeast part of Zemplin (Hungary).

No other foreign journals have at the present date come to hand.